

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /136 W

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R 081510Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8611

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 6890

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR GW UR

SUBJECT: REACTION TO BRANDT'S RESIGNATION

REF: MOSCOW 6806

1. DURING SPASO HOUSE LUNCHEON MAY 7 FOR DR. BURNS, DR. ARBATOV OF USA INSTITUTE DID NOT DISPLAY ANY VISIBLE CONCERN OVER RESIGNATION OF CHANCELLOR BRANDT. HE COMMENTED THAT RESIGNATION FLOWED PRIMARILY FROM DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. ARBATOV FELT THAT FRG FOREIGN POLICY WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED TO ANY SUBSTANTIAL DEGREE SINCE THE MAIN OUTLINES OF BRANDT'S FOREIGN POLICY HAD RECEIVED WIDE SUPPORT WITHIN THE FRG AND HAD THEREFORE BEEN "STABILIZED."

2. SOVIET PRESS TREATMENT SO FAR ALSO HAS TAKEN A BUSINESS-AS-USUAL APPROACH AND HAS PLAYED UP THE DOMESTIC FACTORS (IGNORING GUILLAUME). PRAVDA MAY 8 RAN THREE TASS STOREIS. THE FIRST REPORTED THE RESIGNATION, THE SPD SELECTION OF SCHMIDT AND THE SPD COMMUNIQUE (INCLUDING ITS REFERENCE TO THE DOMESTIC VILIFICATION CAMPAIGN). THE SECOND CARRIED THE TEXT OF THE GDR STATEMENT CALLING THE EVENTS A DOMESTIC

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AFFAIR OF THE FRG. AND THE THIRD NOTED THE FRG

ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE KOHL AGREEMENT. IN PRIVATE
TALK WITH FRG EMBOFF, TWO SOVIET JOURNALISTS SEEMED
AT A LOSS FOR A COHERENT LINE ON RESIGNATION.
STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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To: STATE BERLIN
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